Cable futurists convene in Dallas

NCTA!

Ted Turner: where angels fear to tread

Broadcasting May 19

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Our 49th Year 1980

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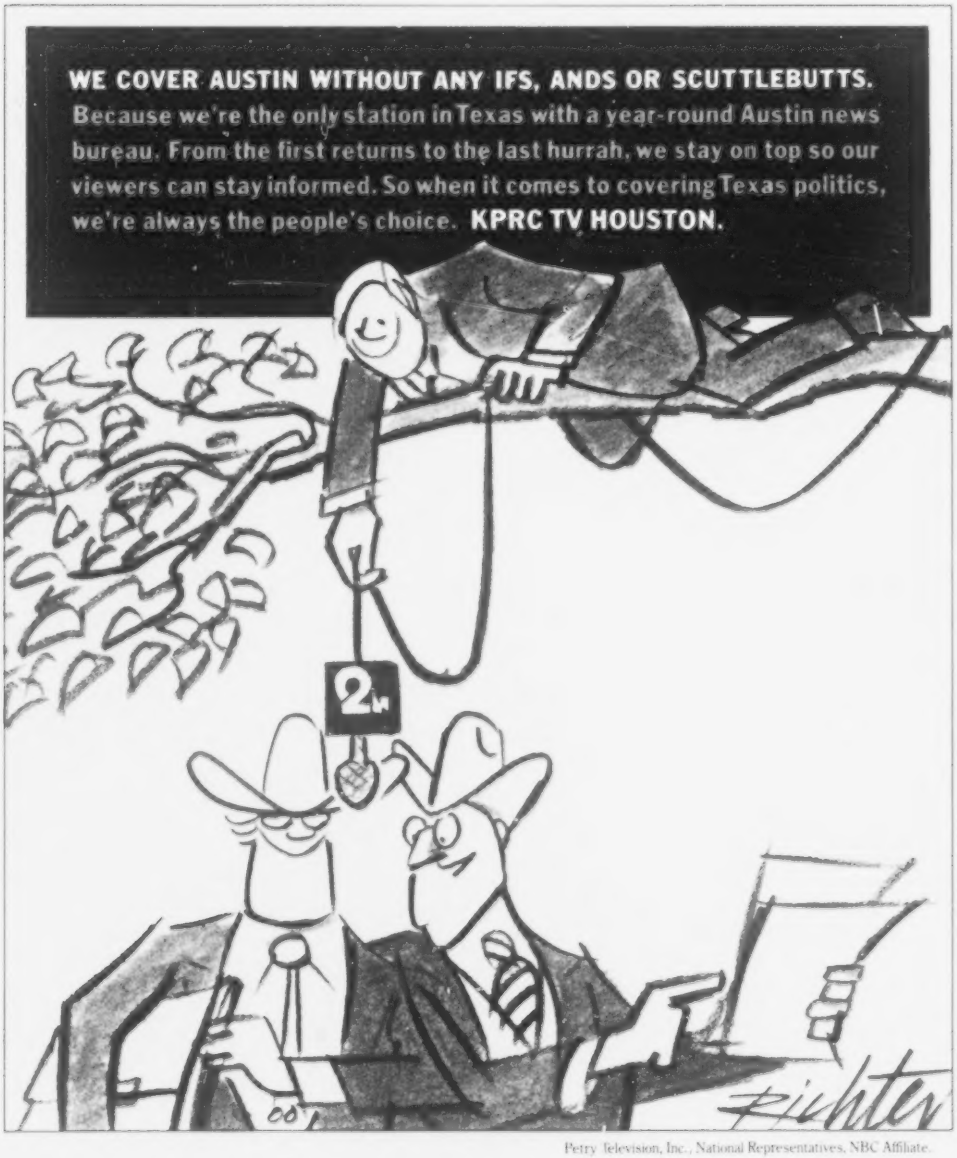

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The Week in Brief

TOP OF THE WEEK

CABLE'S WEEK IN DALLAS ☐ The NCTA's 29th annual convention is off and running with a record attendance of around 7,000 examining the rapid growth of cable in the past year and the even more explosive potential of the coming decade. Programing is expected to dominate the news. **PAGES 29, 48 and 50.**

PREMIERE: HOW IT WILL WORK ☐ Getty Oil and its film partners use the NCTA convention setting to give specifics about their joint national satellite-delivered service. **PAGE 29.**

IT'S OFFICIAL ☐ CBS formally announces its move into cable with KNXT's Shay at the helm. **PAGE 30.**

THE CBS DISCONNECTION ☐ Paley says Backe forced the issue when the latter found out last month his performance was being assessed. **PAGE 32.**

SILVERMAN AND NBC'S FUTURES ☐ In an exclusive interview, the president of NBC reassures that he is not packing his traveling bag. Rather, he is solidifying his team and planning to take his network to the top. **PAGE 33.** His words come on the eve of the NBC-TV affiliates meeting in Los Angeles this week. **PAGE 33.**

FIFTH ESTATE

REBEL WITH A CAUSE ☐ No matter what he does, Ted Turner is a man with a mind of his own and absolutely willing to play his hunches. His expansion in television and cable has been unsettling to many of his competitors, but few will bet against him. This report tells why. **PAGE 35.**

PROGRAMING

UNFLAPPABLE ABC-TV ☐ Network executives and affiliates, meeting in Los Angeles last week, talk more of wins next season than losses last season. **PAGE 68.** Thomopoulos outlines the programing ammunition for the counterattack. **PAGE 68.** Duffy emphasizes that strength of ABC-TV in all areas rightfully makes the network number one. **PAGE 72.** Erlick says the principal concerns of industry in Washington are copyright and direct-to-home satellite broadcasting. **PAGE 75.**

LAW & REGULATION

NBC REBUTS FCC ☐ The network claims its own study of children's programing reveals flaws in the commission's earlier report. Total amount of programing was understated and emphasis was misplaced, NBC contends. **PAGE 75.**

JOURNALISM

QUESTION OF AUTONOMY ☐ Four members of a Senate committee ask Carter's assurance that Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty will stay free of CIA influence. **PAGE 78.**

FREEDOM OF PRESS ☐ The right is not absolute and must be balanced with fair-trial concerns, GWU's Barron maintains. **PAGE 79.**

MEDIA

COUNTING ON TV ☐ Kennedy and Bush throw as much money as possible into television in attempts to reverse their losing battles for the nomination. **PAGE 81.**

STORER HITS SNAG ☐ A cable franchise awarded to its subsidiary in Minneapolis is held up by a state board and by protests from a local access group. **PAGE 82.**

TECHNOLOGY

NUMBERS FROM HARRIS ☐ One of the losers in the AM stereo competition releases a survey that claims 55% of the broadcasters are not satisfied with the choice of Magnavox and that the vast majority feel the FCC should reconsider its decision. **PAGE 87.**

ORBITAL SLOTS ☐ With the floodgates now closed by the FCC on the torrent of applications for places for domestic satellites, here is a status report, with diagram, of what there is and where they operate. **PAGE 88.**

PROFILE

NCTA'S DITTRICK ☐ In putting together Douglas Communications, its founder demonstrated the skills of a politician and the drive of a businessman. Recognition of those talents last February earned Doug Dittrick re-election for an unprecedented second term as chairman of NCTA. **PAGE 113.**

Business Briefly..... 10	Editorials..... 114	Intermedia..... 86	Playback..... 74
Changing Hands..... 84	Fates & Fortunes..... 107	Monday Memo..... 16	Profile..... 113
Closed Circuit..... 9	For the Record..... 91	Monitor..... 72	Stock Index..... 111
Datebook..... 22	In Sync..... 90	News Beat..... 79	Washington Watch..... 76

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Summary of broadcasting

FCC tabulations as of March 31, 1980

	Licensed	On air STA*	CP's on air	Total on air	CP's not on air	Total authorized**
Commercial AM	4,546	3	9	4,558	104	4,662
Commercial FM	3,165	2	1	3,168	181	3,349
Educational FM	1,030	0	5	1,035	96	1,131
Total Radio	8,741	5	15	8,761	381	9,142
Commercial TV						
VHF	514	1	2	517	9	526
UHF	224	0	5	229	68	297
Educational TV						
VHF	99	1	5	105	6	111
UHF	155	2	5	162	8	170
Total TV	992	4	17	1,013	91	1,104
FM Translators	293	0	0	293	152	445
TV Translators						
UHF	1,262	0	0	1,262	412	1,674
VHF	2,510	0	0	2,510	187	2,697

*Special temporary authorization

**Includes off-air licenses